

# **ALDEA SOLAR**

## **"JOSE CECILIO DEL VALLE"**

### **San Ramón Centro, Choluteca**



CHOLUTECA  
ALCALDIA MUNICIPAL



*solar •  net • village®*

# SAN RAMÓN CENTRO

POPULATION: 815 INHABITANTS

FAMILIES: 125

COMMUNITIES: 15

TEACHERS: 4

STUDENTS: 210



# Community Meetings

**The  
Community  
Center was  
also a Meeting  
Headquarters.**



# Community Meetings

## Took Place at the “José Cecilio del Valle” School

There was not  
much optimism  
that things would  
really change.

*Remember this  
picture before  
Solar.net  
Villages®*



# **SOLAR.NET VILLAGE® COMPONENTS.**

**OnSat Satellite Antenna and Solar powered  
wireless connections**

**Connection to high speed Internet,  
Distance Learning, E-commerce,  
Distance Medicine and soon Telephone  
Service**

# To Reach San Ramón was NOT EASY



The day before the inauguration the computers were still not delivered. The truck was stuck, the only way to get them there was .....(see next page)





This is how part of the equipment  
reached the village

**An  
Encounter  
Between  
Two  
Cultures**



# “José Cecilio del Valle” School

**BEFORE**



San Ramon now has a high school with 3 teachers as students are staying in school



**NOW**



# Health Center



San Ramon now also has a Health Center with lights, a refrigerator for medicine and vaccines, and hot water for sterilization. Soon a telephone with the support of Hondutel.



# Parish Church

## Inner Illumination in the Church

Recently the Priest became ill and had to go to Spain for surgery. The people and the Priest were able to keep in touch via Email



# Energy Collector Panels



Energy Collector  
Panels at the School  
and the new  
Community Center





# Public Illumination

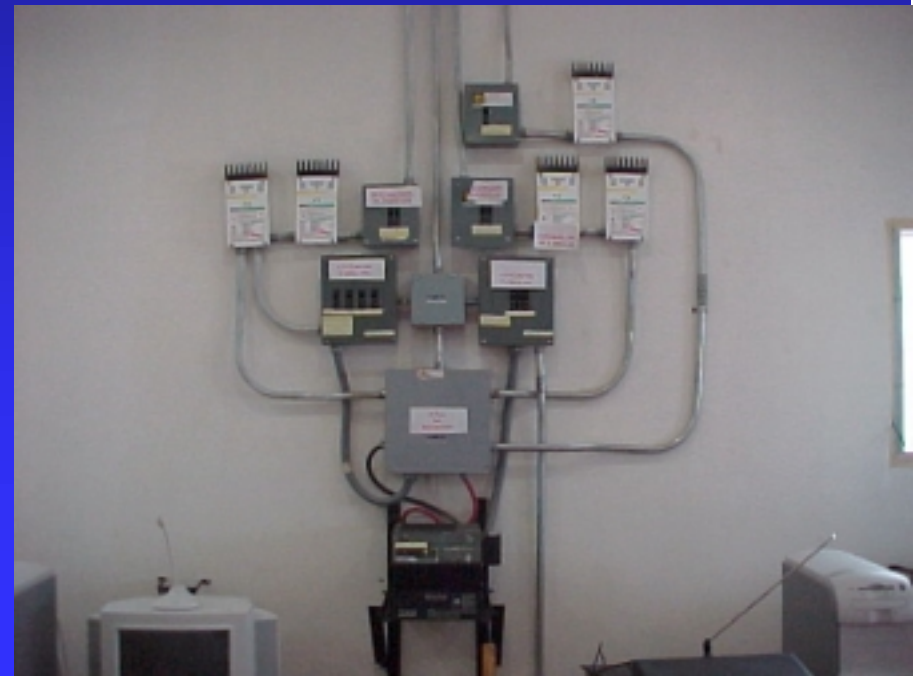


Public Illumination  
within the central zone  
streets of the Village,  
giving light to San  
Ramón Centro from  
sunset until 1:00 A.M.,  
after midnight.

# Some Components of the Solar Energy System



Control Center



The next Solar.net Villages® will use water storage instead of batteries plus all DC powered PCs from Gateway Computers.



# PLANS AND PROJECTS

- Fresh Water Fishery Microenterprise
- Bakery Microenterprise
- Corn Milling Microenterprise
- Hammock Manufacturing Microenterprise
- Garment and Tailoring Microenterprise
- Handcraft and Artisanry Microenterprise
- Shoe Manufacturing Microenterprise
- Organic Agriculture
- Library



# Organic Agriculture



This year the families of San Ramon will grow enough extra food to sell to other villages.

88 year old Don Daniel uses Word and Excel to show families how much, when and what to plant.



# Working Meetings

There are now no alcohol or crime problems in San Ramon as everyone is busy planning and working for a bright future as a community.





# New “José Cecilio del Valle School”



# Children Learning Computing



The *Microworlds* Software, developed by Logos Computer Systems Inc. (LCSI-Canada) and the MIT Media Laboratory, has helped identify 3 children who are geniuses.



# OnSat brings San Ramon to the world



This OnSat satellite antenna will soon bring hope to 50 more villages that surround San Ramon via wireless local loop.

October, 2000 in San Pedro Sula, the government of Honduras and OnSat inaugurated San Ramon as the first Solar.Net Village® in the world.





## Gateway Computers presents the first DC-PCs to Honduras



## Presentation at UNITEC in San Pedro Sula



The Vice President spoke while the people of San Ramon watched from their village and communicated via video conference with students of Oklahoma City Schools and East Carolina University Medical Center



The official inauguration ceremonies were attended by the Presidential Envoy, Vice President William Handal; the Minister and National Commissioner for Science and Technology, Gerardo Zepeda Bermudez; the Deputy-Dean of UNITEC, Juan Ramon Sarmiento; the OAS' Representative for Honduras, Guillermo Molina; university students, professors, numerous businessmen and media representatives of Honduras and other Central American countries.

Vice President William Handal said that OnSat's high-speed, wireless, solar powered Internet system known as the Solar.Net Village®, Digital Equity Network® allows Honduras to provide rural areas with the most sophisticated telecommunications systems available. "We are well aware of what Solar.Net Villages® means for our country and even more, for the rest of the Latin-American countries. This is a magnificent project for our continent. We are uniting our efforts, experiences, knowledge, yearnings and successes just as our founding fathers envisioned, and all these thanks to this innovative technology, which final reach we cannot yet envision." said Handel.

He also said that "with this system, we are opening a very wide window for our people, particularly our rural populations so they can explore the existing world abroad, that has so much to share with the Honduran peoples, in order to more successfully continue to battle against underdevelopment".



In another interview, Alex Pentland, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's - Media Lab's Academic Head, also noted how countries with no telecommunications infrastructure ironically enjoy an unexpected advantage -- since they can buy into the best and cheapest systems available today without having to retrofit any previous technologies or systems. The combination of wireless and portable power generation -- solar or otherwise -- makes an appealing pair. "There's actually a lot of things you can't do in the U.S.," he said in an interview last Thursday. "We have so much copper (cables) everywhere. As the wireless infrastructure continues to build in the developing countries, you're going to see a big shift. You're going to see these emerging nations becoming wealthy at a speed that might surprise you."

# Welcome from the people of San Ramon



In a little over a year, hope is restored to the Village of San Ramon

# OnSat Brings Solar.Net Villages® to San Ramon and to all Honduras

- High speed Internet
- Telephone (soon)
- Distance learning
- E – commerce
- Jobs
- Distance medicine
- DC-PCs
- All solar powered



Solar.net Villages® are quickly proving to be a self-sustaining way of bringing hope and positive change to remote villages around the world.

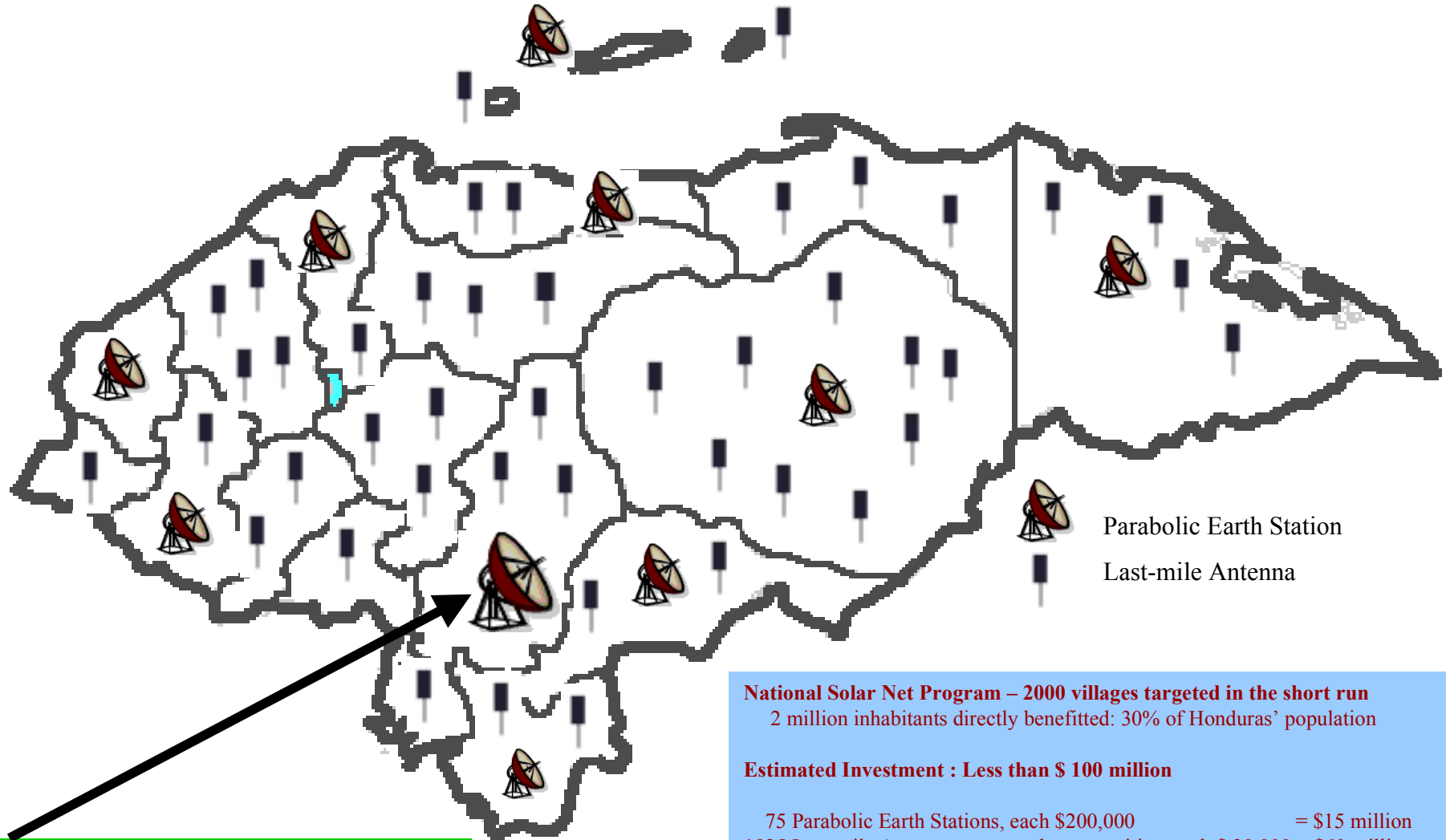
Here are a couple of the many emails received from the people in San Ramon. I thought you would enjoy it if I translated them and let you see how the people feel about the system:

Phil Richards, I am greeting you very affectionately, desiring that the Devine Redeemer keeps you healthy and happy with your family and children, and at the same time tell you that we are receiving classes over the Internet. Thank you very much for everything you have done so that we have access to communicate with the entire world.

Kindly, Merlin Omar Paz

Esteemed: Phil Richard. We greet you from San Ramon Centro, the first solar village of Latin America. In the name of my community, I want to thank you for your great collaboration, and that God will always protect you. (from Adalid Paz)

# BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE



**Interactive Learning Center (ILC)  
PROFUTURO Children's Museum**

**National Solar Net Program – 2000 villages targeted in the short run**  
2 million inhabitants directly benefitted: 30% of Honduras' population

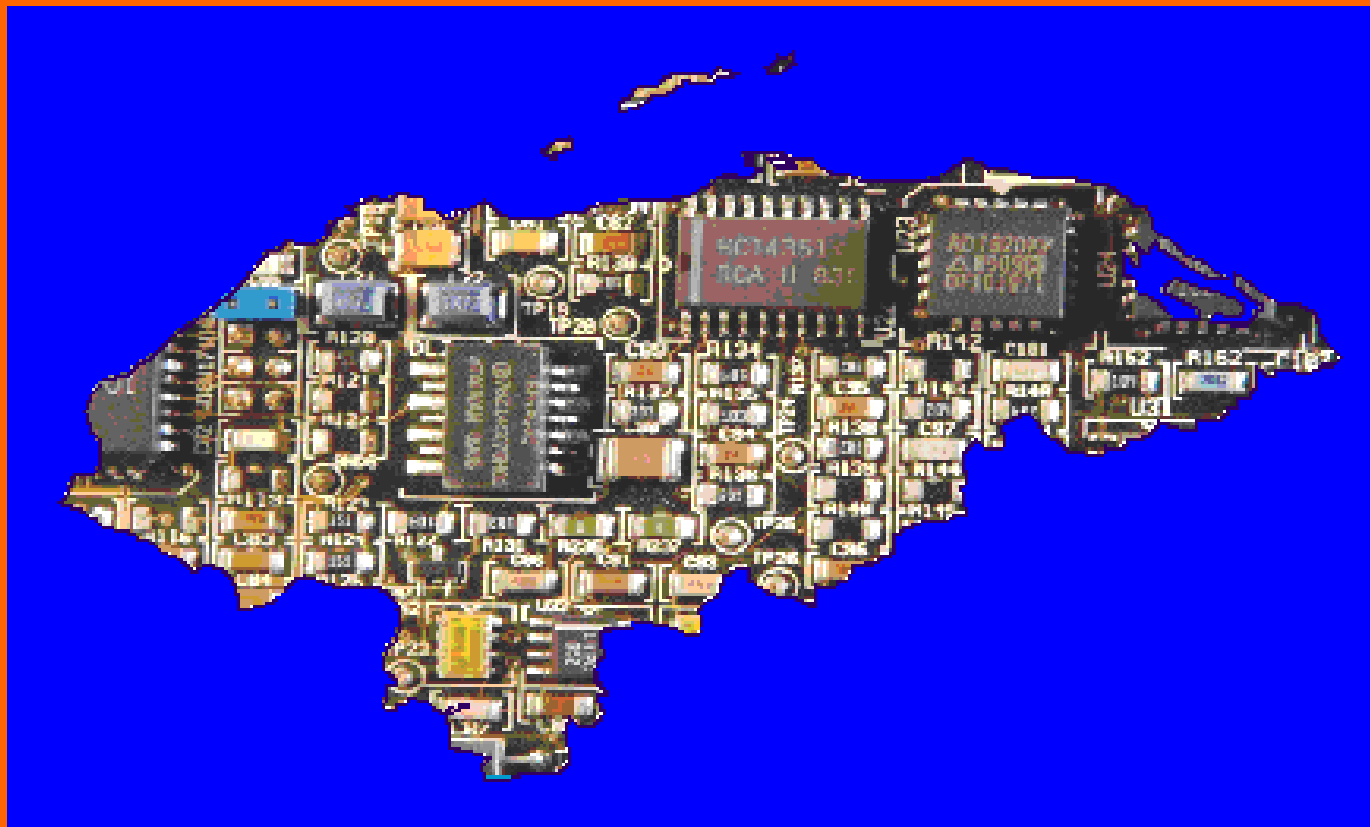
**Estimated Investment : Less than \$ 100 million**

75 Parabolic Earth Stations, each \$200,000 = \$15 million  
1925 Last-mile Antenna connected communities, each \$ 30,000 = \$60 million  
(between 25-30 communities for each Parabolic Earth Station)

Includes basic equipment (computers, videos), solar powered energy, training, distance education, telemedicine, e-Employment



## **“BUILDING A NEW COUNTRY VISION”**

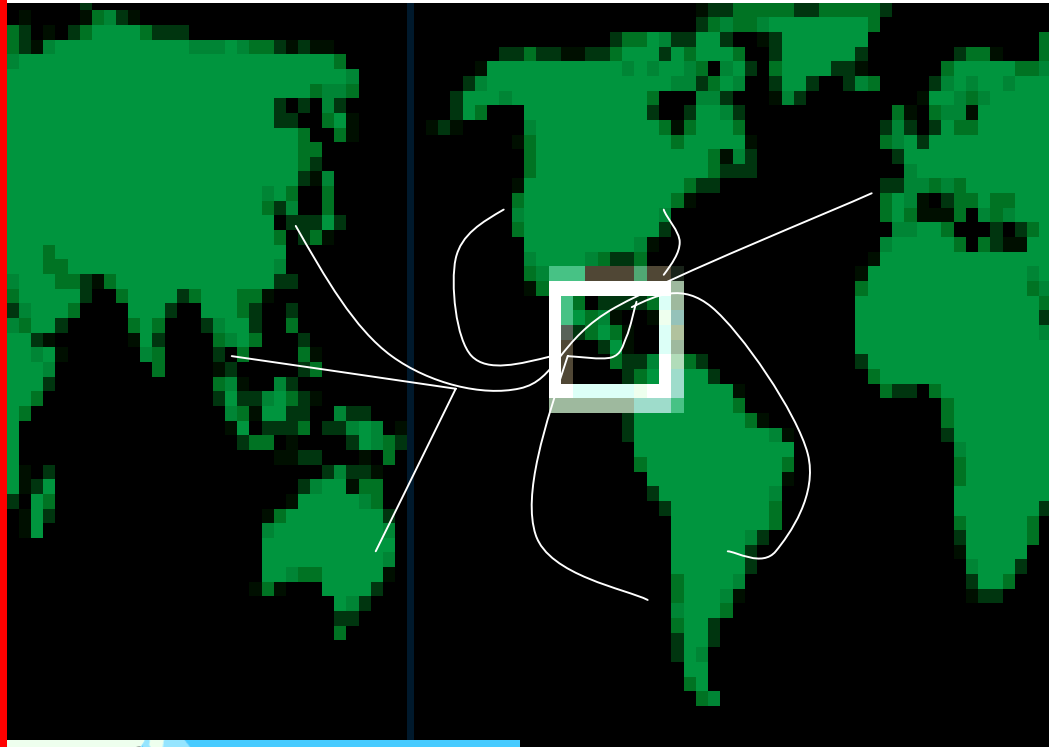


**COMPETITIVITY**

**Massive Employment  
Foreign Currency  
Production**

**Traditional Strategic Sectors: Forestry, Tourism, Agro-Industry, Mining  
The Environment and Basin Conservation  
Community Organization for Education, Science, Technology & Production  
A New Model: National Solar.Net Village Program  
Bridging the Digital Divide  
Technologic Leap: High Technology Manufacturing/Electronics, Internet,  
Telecommunications, Biotechnology, Solar Energy Panels**

**“WE CAN CHANGE THE DESTINY OF A COUNTRY,  
A REGION AND THE WORLD”**



**GEO-ECONOMIC  
ADVANTAGES OF THE  
CENTRAL AMERICAN  
ISTHMUS**



**HONDURAS IN THE HEART OF CENTRAL AMERICA**

**“CROSSROAD CENTER OF WORLD TRADE:  
A TRANSFORMED NATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY”**